

Serial No. 09/458,077

16. (Amended) The article of claim 15, wherein the grooves intersect in a vicinity of the longitudinally middle point of said lines.

17. (Amended) The article of claim 14, wherein a depth of at least one of the grooves gradually decreases from the longitudinally middle point of the respective line toward the longitudinally opposite ends thereof.

20. (Amended) The article of claim 6, wherein said lines intersect in a vicinity of the longitudinally middle point thereof.